Reorientation of Government's Shipping Policy

6852. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a complete reorientation of the Government's Shipping Policy has been suggested by the Asian Institute of Transport Development;

(b) what arc the details of the suggestions made by the Institute; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government to the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) The Asian Institute of Transport Development has made certain suggestions for the development of shipping industry. The important measures suggested by them relate to cargo support, fiscal incentives. simplification of procedure for sale & purchases of ships, support to build up shipping fleet, increase of Indian lines share in carriage of genera! cargo and Acquisition of cellular container vessels for carriage of general cargo etc. These measures have been considered while reviewing the shipping policy. The Shipping Corporation of India has recently acquired three cellular container vessels to increase the Indian lines' share in carriage of general cargo.

Financial Assistance for a Ring Road in Nagpur

6853. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of financial assistance proposed to be given to the Maharashtra Government for the completion of ring road in Nagpur;

(b) what is the amount disbursed so far; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Initially, construction of Ring Road in Nagpur was decided in 1986 to be taken up on cost sharing basis between Government of India, State Government of Maharashtra and Nagpur Improvement Trust. Estimates for an aggregate amount of Rs. 140.21 lakhs as Central share were sanctioned for Survey/ Investigation, Land Acquisition and Shifting of Utilities. Subsequently, the State Government decided to complete the Ring Road from their own funds.

Pending Applications for Stevedore Licences

6854. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications for stevedore licences arc pending with the various Port Trust Authorities;

(b) what is the number of pending applications, Port-wise; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in granting the licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE